

SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENTS

The present amendment cancels claims 8, 10 and 14, amends claims 1, 2, 3, 6 and 11-13, and adds new claim 15.

Support for these amendments is provided by the originally filed claims and specification.

Support for the amendment to claims 1, 2, 3, 6 and 11-13 is found at specification page 1, line 8, page 6, lines 24-25, page 7, lines 3-5, page 11, lines 9-12, and page 15, lines 18-21, as well as original claims 8 and 10.

Support for newly added claim 15 is found at specification page 14, lines 11-14 and 22-26, and page 15, lines 1-17.

It is believed that these amendments have not resulted in the introduction of new matter.

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 6, 11-13 and 15 are currently pending in the present application. Claims 8, 10 and 14 have been cancelled, claims 1, 2, 3, 6 and 11-13 have been amended, and new claim 15 has been added, by the present amendment.

Applicants wish to extend their appreciation to Examiner Goloboy for withdrawing the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) of: (1) claims 1-6, 8 and 9 as being obvious over Goodwine (U.S. Patent 3,405,065); and (2) claims 1-6 and 8-11 as being obvious over Tipton (U.S. Patent 6,133,210).

The rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) of: (1) claims 1-3, 6, 12 and 14 as being obvious over Meyer (U.S. Patent 4,863,487); and (2) claims 1-3, 6, 8 and 12-14 as being obvious over Meyer in view of Tiffany (U.S. Patent 5,789,356), are obviated by amendment, with respect to claims 1-3, 6, 11-13 and 15, which incorporates the limitation of now cancelled claim 10 into amended claim 1.

As acknowledged in the Official Action, Meyer and Tiffany fail to disclose or suggest that the lubricant composition of the present invention is for an automatic transmission, as presently claimed. Therefore, Applicants have amended claim 1 to include the automatic transmission limitation of now cancelled claim 10. Withdrawal of these grounds of rejection is respectfully requested.

The rejection of claims 10 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Meyer in view of Harrison (U.S. 2004/0102338), are obviated by amendment, with respect to claims 1-3, 6, 11-13 and 15, which incorporates into claim 1 the limitation that R¹ of the succinimide compound (A) of formula (1) represents a *linear* alkenyl group having 6-30 carbon atoms or a *linear* alkyl group having 6-30 carbon atoms.

Meyer and Harrison fail to disclose or suggest a succinimide compound (A) according to formula (1) of the present invention, wherein R¹ represents a *linear* alkenyl group having 6-30 carbon atoms or a *linear* alkyl group having 6-30 carbon atoms, as presently claimed in amended claim 1. Meyer and Harrison also fail to disclose or suggest a lubricant composition in accordance with the present invention further comprising one or more additives selected from the group consisting of a metal-based detergent, an antiwear agent and a viscosity index improver, as presently claimed in new

Application No. 10/561,368
Attorney Docket No. 281974US0PCT
Response to Official Action dated December 30, 2010

claim 15. Therefore, Meyer and Harrison fail to render obvious to a skilled artisan the claimed lubricant composition of the present invention. Withdrawal of this ground of rejection is respectfully requested.

In conclusion, Applicants submit that the present application is now in condition for allowance and notification to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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